16 August 1972

Dear Harold:

This main purpose of this is to forward the enclosed, particularly the Freep article and the one in the Realist on which Kunkin's article is based. Also there's a Sprague thing from Computers and Automation. I'm sure all of this is going to invite a Weisberg explosion of sorts, but I feel it's better for you to know what's going on than not. Personally, I have not had time to study any of these, but feel Mrs. Brussell tends to make statements she can't begin to prove. But I must say that if she is correct that either Hunt or Barker were in Dallas, then perhaps we all should take another look at Nixon's presence there the night before, something that few people seem to know about. Hal hasn't seen Mrs. Brussell's thing but says she is inclined to go off the deep end now and then.

Your 23 and 24 here, along with your D which apparently came first class, arriving in three days, presumably sped on its way by the 32 cents postage you had to spend on it.

We much appreciate all the clippings you have been sending, but frankly they are piling up unread because we simply lack the time. There is nothing we'd rather do that read such pre-selected material, but it's just out of the question. So why not restrict yourself to what you are sure will be essential ? It would save you money and effort, and we would not be quite so swamped. Eventually, we shall work our way through all this, but that time is probably months away. My work at the office becomes more and more exhausting (for everyone, not just for me) and the time I have left for my own interests becomes correspondingly less and less. And Jennifer is weeks behind in her clipping, although she HAS been able to keep current in regard to Bremer, the Watergate caper and other prime essentials. But basically she is working over the same material twice, in the end. There is no other way to handle it.

Also, don't send your copy of the Parallax View. It would cost too much and there is no telling when I'd be able to read it. I do thank you for the information on it, and shall order it, so this fixes me up beautifully.

Among your enclosures with 24 was an inquiry about the NYTimes reporter Rugaber. Never heard of him before this series of stories. He could be anybody, of course, but the most likely possibility is a youngish guy with Spanish language qualifications whom we've not heard of before because of this very speciality. However, as I say, he could be anyone. Agree with you: it certainly LOOKs as if the Mexicans are being used. Also agree that the likelihood of AP picking this up is very remote, unless UPI does first (they are relatively hot and relatively good on Latin-American coverage, although frequently doing pretty obvious jobs) and thus forces the AP into it.

Your 8/12 watergate conjecture is right on the beam. My impression is that the young radicals on their way or already there (they staged a puke-in today at the Fontainebleau) are well

aware of the provacateur threat, but it may be doubted if they have much idea of how deadly it can be or how well-organized and skilfully done. As you undoubtedly know, Kleindienst said frankly here a couple of days ago that if there is much of a disturbance he will not hestitate to deal with the situation as he dealt with the May Day demonstrations in Washington. He went on record as saying he didn't think there was the remotest chance of it happening, but also went on record as saying that if it did he's ready with the police and the National Guard with whom he's been conferring. Somehow he never got around to mentioning the large numbers of Cubans who are available in Miami.

As far as I know, the Mallards which my brother NOW AND THEN tossed into a stiff wind were actually Mallards. They could have been Rouens, but if so no one knew it. Everyone was firm in his faith they were just Mallards. If I gave the impression that my entire boyhood was spent launching these unfortunate creatures on unwilling flight, it was erroneous. We did many other inspired things, and the Mallard-tossing bit was soon halted by my father, who objected to seeing his decoys limping around the barnyard , especially during the duck-hunting season.

Frankly, after I indulged in that bit of nostalgia about our cats, Jenifer and I both experienced mild qualms along the line of God, maybe the Weisbergs are Bird Lovers and can't stand cats. We should have known better, but reacted on the basis of earlier frigid receptions from BLs when the subject of cats came up. Hell harboreth no greater fury, surely. Now we know what we felt all along, that the Weisbergs love all living things, including cats.

Re feline enteritis, did you know there has been for at least a dozen years an immunization that is practically 100 per cent effective ? We had one cat die of it before this was developed, but none since. Matter of fact it is law in this county that no cat can be sold (even from the SPCA pound) without having had his shots.

About snakes, there are rattlers farther up the mountain, I'm told, although I've never seen one, but at this (500-foot) level we have only harmless garter snakes. They are a special delight to most cats, as any moving string would be, although each cat seems to have his speciality as to what he has the best luck hunting. One cat concentrated on snakes, bringing in beautiful little orange-and brown snakes about eight inches long. Jenifer would plop the plastic bowl over him, (the snake) shove the cookie sheet underneath, and after duly praising the mighty hunter take him outside and liberate him, just as we do all the mice, gophers lizards etc which are brought in alive. I'd say at least 90 per cent of the game is saved this way, which makes us feel a little better, anyway. Fortunately, our cats don't try to eat much of ther game, the big deal being to bring it in to show off, earn praise, and perhaps join in an exciting chase through the house. Lizards make them sick, and of course the ticks and fleas they get off the gophers and mice cause a great deal of trouble, including tapeworms.

Regarding your experience with Horvath and the Tanaka Memorial, the TM was thoroughly exposed in the late 1920s by J.B.Powell in the China Weekly Review, published in Shanghai. It probably cost J.B. his life, for after Pearl Harbor the Japanese gendarmerie in Shanghai threw him into a dungeon where he caught gangrene and his heels rotted off. We carried him aboard the repatriation vessel in the summer of 1942 when he weighed about 75 pounds. He made a partial recovery, but died somewhere near Washington soon after the war ended. His daughter is married to Stewart Hensley of UPI. His son is the John W. Powell who was charged with treason here for printing stories in the Review during the Korean war of American experimenting with germ warfare in North Korea. The charges later were dropped for lack of evidence. I think he's now working with the U.N. in New York. For many years here while in the shadows he made his living by buying up old San Francisco houses and remodelling them.

Also about the Tanaka Memorial, there is a famous incident dating from the time of the Versailles Treaty involving the then AP correspondent in Peking, Frederick Moore. Moore got wind in Peking of the sell-out to Japan at China's expense that was being negotiated at Paris to settle World War I. He cabled it to New York, and the AP general manager, Melville Stone, cabled back that he was disappointed in Moore and how could he fall for such a yarn. Moore then cabled Stone that he had got the story from the Japanese themselves, said he was disappointed in the AP, and submitted his resignation. It was accepted. Whether this particular sell-out (the Shantung peninsula) was actually part of the Tanaka Memorial I cannot now recall, but I think it probably was. I used to have a copy of it, of what was purported to be a copy, but of course lost it with everything else in Peking. Do you remember what it was supposed to have been submitted to the Emperor ? My recollection is 1917, but I am not at all sure.

Must do some copying, and get this all together.

Best,

jdw

Parallax View: Several mailings back sent you a clipping about an actor who's making a movie of it; can't remember his name or date of clipping. If I forgot to mark or you didn't notice, he also wants to make a movie of an inter-racial love story and is now reading scripts. Don't you have one*with movie potential?

Je

*Story, not script.